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The Unbroken Shell
of the Sea

Elementary Library Standards

Journal of the
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Enduring and
Changing Views

of the
Library of Congress

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A Catholic Book Shelf For Public Libraries

By REV. NICHOLAS A. STEFFEN, *Columbia College*

Not least among the indications that our Holy Father's pleas for Catholic Action have met response is the current Catholic literary revival. Even those unfamiliar with Father Calvert Alexander's splendid book on that subject must be impressed by the ever enlarging list of new and worthwhile religious books engaging the attention of serious reviewers. The plain fact is that we have a distinctive Catholic literature today, and, unless all signs fail, we shall have a greater one tomorrow. Convinced that the urgent need at present is not so much the production of good books as the wider distribution of those we already have, exponents of the apostolate of the written word have worked out a multiplicity of plans designed to bring our best Catholic books within easy reach of the reading public. Well known to readers of *The Catholic Library World* are such splendid projects as the Catholic Unity League of New York, the Catholic book review index of the Columbia College (Dubuque) library, the diocesan circulating library of Wilmington, Delaware, Father Magner's and Father Wagner's parish reading clubs in Chicago, Father Feltes' Catholic literature club of Fort Wayne, and Father Gales' mailing library at St. Paul.

To supplement the above-mentioned projects, Dubuque Catholics about three

years ago inaugurated a "Catholic Shelf" in the Free Public Library. The fact that this "Shelf" has continued to grow in popularity as well as in size suggests the possibility that readers of *The Catholic Library World* may be interested in the details of the experiment.

HISTORY OF THE "SHELF"

The origin of the "Catholic Shelf" idea lay in the desire of Dubuque Catholics to provide a source of good Catholic reading material easily accessible to everybody in the community—and inexpensive enough to offset the cheap rental libraries springing up in almost every drug and department store. The public library seemed to be the logical place. It is centrally located; it is spacious, inviting, and cheery; its staff is efficient and courteous; it is the center of culture for the general reading public.

A committee was formed and the chairman authorized to approach the librarian and the Board of Trustees with a tentative plan. The plan as accepted provided that the interested Catholic groups would present as gifts to the library whichever books they desired to have placed on the "Catholic Shelf", and that the library staff would assign to these books a special section. It was further agreed that the library staff would catalogue the books, put them into circulation, rebind them when necessary, and in

a word give them the same attention accorded other accessions. It was understood likewise that the library might refuse any book deemed unsuitable for general circulation—but, to date, none has been rejected.

An understanding having been effected with the library authorities, the committee next asked and received the approval of the Most Reverend Archbishop of Dubuque, and the project was then publicized through the local Catholic press. Simultaneously an appeal was made for the contribution of books and/or funds. Finally, a priest at Columbia College was selected to inspect the donated books before presentation to the library and to purchase additional volumes. He also keeps a file of all books belonging to the "Shelf". This list, classified and alphabetically arranged, he revises and mimeographs from time to time so as to make it available to schools, study clubs and librarians in other cities.

ADVANTAGES

The successful operation of the "Catholic Shelf" in Dubuque has prompted the inauguration of similar projects in more than forty cities in the United States and Canada. Because of the many inquiries recently received, the author wrote to all the public libraries in which it was known that a "Shelf" had been established or was being planned. He asked for a candid expression of opinion as to the practicability of the experiment and for an enumeration of its advantages and disadvantages as revealed by the experience of the respective librarians. The answers—in all instances most courteous—showed a genuine interest. The few who disapproved of the project did so with the honest conviction that the "Shelf" would be impractical in their communi-

ties. The great majority, however, of those who had given the "Shelf" a serious trial found that the advantages far outweighed the disadvantages. It might be added, too, that the objections to the "Shelf" came chiefly from those who had not at the time undertaken the project. In other words, the "Shelf", with few exceptions, has sold itself when given the opportunity.

Thus one Iowa librarian stated: "The 'Shelf' is widely used by both Catholics and non-Catholics". Another: "The 'Shelf' has brought a number of new patrons to the public library and has increased the cooperation of library patrons". A third: "The 'Shelf' was started as a temporary project, but it is now kept as a permanent reserve. It demonstrates the fact that 'silent salesmanship' works in libraries as well as elsewhere". Another mid-west librarian wrote: "The 'Catholic Shelf' increased the circulation of some books as much as ten times. It has provided valuable 'outside reading' material for school assignments. The average circulation of 'Shelf' books is about ten a year". A Massachusetts librarian commented: "The advantages of the 'Shelf' outweigh the disadvantages. It brings religious books together for easy selection, and introduces to the public certain books that might otherwise remain unknown". From Springfield, Massachusetts, came the report: "Readers have shown added interest in religious books". And the Enid, Oklahoma, librarian states: "The books on the 'Catholic Shelf' are a valuable and an appreciated addition to our library".

Since the Dubuque "Catholic Shelf" was the first of its kind to be placed in a public library, the project here has had a sufficient trial to disclose both its merits

and its defects. Hence the estimate of the "Shelf" by Miss May Clark, Dubuque librarian, carries special weight. Miss Clark prepared a statement of her views to be read at one of the panel discussions at the Kansas City C.L.A. Convention last June, and that statement is hereby subjoined with her permission:

"The Catholic Book Shelf was installed in the Dubuque Public Library in 1934. There are now about 800 volumes in the collection. The books are of excellent quality and most of them of late date. There are books of travel, biography, and fiction written by Catholic authors, and some few books on distinctively Catholic subjects, but nothing controversial. The librarian is the judge of this. The books have been donated to the library by Catholic individuals and societies and they include no book paid for by city taxes. They become the property of the library, the only stipulation being that they remain together on the shelf labeled 'Catholic Book Shelf'. They are kept in repair by the library.

"The books have proven very popular, and as the various Catholic Churches and societies urge the reading of these, it has brought to the library many new readers who, we believe, would have been introduced to the library in no other way.

"I am not a Catholic, and when the idea was first suggested to me, I doubted the expediency of segregating books of any kind for any one class. However, I am now convinced that the establishment of the 'Shelf' was wise. The books are not circulated as propaganda, but that Catholics may be introduced to authors of their own faith, and that the young of their faith may be protected from so-called sophisticated books, and introduced to the best in modern literature.

"There has never been any objection raised by any other sect, and as all Protestants read the same general kind of religious books, I can see no reason for the maintenance of a Methodist, a Presbyterian, or other denominational 'Shelf'.

"As far as creating unnecessary labor for pages and desk attendants in using the 'Shelf', we have had no trouble of this kind. Both pages and attendants soon learn to use the symbols on the cards for this 'Shelf' just as they do for special collections, oversize, foreign, etc.

"The great advantages to the library are the many valuable additions to our book collection without having them paid for through taxes. Many new readers are introduced to the library through it, and it is an easy way of directing Catholics to Catholic literature.

"The disadvantage might be the establishment of precedent, but we have had no trouble on that account here."

OBJECTIONS

Any impartial study of the "Catholic Shelf" project must in all fairness consider the objections raised by those who are unfavorable to the plan. A Massachusetts librarian states the case against the "Shelf" as follows: (a) "Catholic Action has no place in a public institution; (b) the librarian is not justified in segregating his collection into Catholic, Protestant, and Jewish divisions; (c) if there is a Catholic 'Shelf', we shall have Christian Science, Methodist, and other denominational shelves; (d) the librarian hasn't the means to distinguish the religious qualifications of an author; (e) the circulation of Catholic books in my library increased after they were placed in the general collection".

A Los Angeles librarian writes, "There are too many religious cults here to oblige all". An Iowan complains of limited space and adds, "If Catholic books are placed on a special shelf, certain patrons unwilling to go to a Catholic 'Shelf' will never find or use them". From Kenosha, Wisconsin, comes the suggestion, "Borrowers should be trained to use the catalogue and thus find their own books". In Huntington, West Virginia, it is felt that, "The librarian gives more efficient service if books are arranged on regular shelves". And Dayton, Ohio, adds that a Catholic 'Shelf' "necessitates additional searching for books, confuses pages, narrows the reading of Catholics, and turns non-Catholics away from Catholic books".

Some comments on the above objections may not be out of place. For the sake of clearness, the objections will be restated and individual comments added.

(a) "Catholic Action has no place in a public institution." *Comment:* If the Catholic "Shelf" is proposed as a measure of ecclesiastical domination over the library (but the "Shelf" is not so proposed), the objection is valid; but if the "Shelf" merely undertakes to make more easily accessible to all patrons the Catholic books already belonging to the library (as the "Shelf" does), then the objection is irrelevant. It might be added, however, that Catholic Action properly understood (the application of Christian principles—voluntarily accepted—in the fields of thought and action) ought not to be excluded from any sphere of human endeavor.

(b) "The librarian is not justified in segregating his collection into Catholic, Protestant, and Jewish divisions." *Comment:* The "Catholic Shelf" project does not call for disturbing the books already

acquired by the library and consigned to its ordinary stacks. The "Shelf" is an additional permanent reserve of books donated for a special purpose.

(c) "If there is a Catholic 'Shelf', we shall have Christian Science, Methodist, and other denominational shelves." *Comment:* Although the "Shelf" has been established for a number of years in several libraries, no requests have been received as yet for other denominational reserves. Outside of Catholic literature there is not a notable body of clear-cut denominational reading matter of differentiated types, e. g., Baptist fiction, Presbyterian poetry, Methodist travel. However, should some non-Catholic church group be ready to equip a "Shelf" with a representative collection of general literature bearing a distinct denominational background, the library would do well to approve the project.

(d) "The librarian hasn't the means to distinguish the religious qualifications of the author." *Comment:* The librarian is no more obligated to "distinguish the religious qualification of an author" than he is to "distinguish" the legal or medical qualifications of an author.

(e) "The circulation of Catholic books increased after being placed in the general collection." *Comment:* Exactly the contrary experience has been reported by every library except this one.

(f) "Space is limited." *Comment:* This is possibly a valid objection in some libraries. Yet, has anyone ever heard of a crowded library rejecting donations of good books? Or of a library refusing to make space when there is a real, insistent demand by the reading public? Libraries will go to almost any extent to provide books for people who really want them. However, the objection, when founded on

fact, may sometimes be met by supplying for the library both the "Shelf" (or stacks) and the books.

(g) "If Catholic books are placed on a special 'Shelf', certain patrons unwilling to go to such a 'Shelf' will never find or use the books." *Comment:* This observation is contrary to the experience of those libraries already having a Catholic "Shelf". Moreover, if "certain patrons" are unwilling to go to a Catholic "Shelf" because it is Catholic, they will undoubtedly be unwilling to read a Catholic book because it is Catholic, no matter where they find it. It is to be remembered, too, that the "Shelf" leaves undisturbed in the regular stacks the Catholic books already provided by general library appropriations.

(h) "Borrowers should be trained to use the catalogue and thus to find their own books." *Comment:* Silent salesmanship is more effective than a card catalogue. At least department store displays would so indicate. The fact is that many readers, unfamiliar with authors and titles, make their first acquaintance with good books by browsing through them on a "Shelf". This is true of all reserves and special displays.

(i) "Librarians give more efficient service if books are arranged on regular shelves." *Comment:* The most efficient service a librarian can render is that service which the public wants. The convenience of a Catholic "Shelf" requires no more expenditure of labor than does any other "reserve".

(j) "It necessitates additional searching for books." *Comment:* On the contrary, the "Shelf" by assembling religious books into one section makes them much more easily accessible.

(k) "It confuses pages." *Comment:* Not intelligent pages.

(l) "It narrows the reading of Catholics." *Comment:* General literature is not less available to patrons because a library happens to have a Catholic "Shelf". In fact, the "Shelf" enlarges the library's resources.

(m) "It turns Protestants from Catholic books." *Comment:* There is no evidence for this assertion, but there is a great deal of evidence to the contrary. Protestants who deliberately turn from Catholic books because such books are Catholic will turn from them wherever found, whether on a "Shelf" or in general circulation.

SUBSTITUTES FOR A CATHOLIC "SHELF"

An encouraging sign that Catholic literature is making its impact felt even where no special "Shelf" exists is the fact that more than fifty libraries have written to Dubuque for information on the project. In many of these, substitute plans have been in operation. Some libraries, such as Pittsfield, Massachusetts, keep a list of Catholic books at the circulation desk. Others, notably Fort Wayne, Indiana, issue periodically a classified catalogue. Knoxville, Tennessee, and Springfield, Massachusetts, arrange temporary exhibits of Catholic literature during Lent. Stratford, Connecticut, procures regularly the Catholic Book of the Month.

CIRCULATION

The most satisfying feature of the "Shelf" project has been the increased circulation of Catholic books. The Dubuque "Shelf", numbering about 800 volumes, reports a circulation varying from ten to fifty books a day. Incidentally, Dubuque is a city of about 43,000 population. The lowest circulation dur-

ing 1938 amounted to fifty-eight volumes in one week—and that the hottest spell of the summer. At Fort Dodge, Iowa, the books from the Catholic "Shelf" were in circulation an average of ten times each a year. Mason City, Iowa, found that the increased interest in Catholic books justified the staff in keeping the "Shelf" as a permanent reserve, although it was started as a seasonal exhibit. Springfield, Massachusetts, acknowledged that readers have shown added interest in religious literature since the "Shelf" was started.

A study of the type of book in greatest demand reveals the fact that fiction and biography are most popular, with poetry and essays next in order. The following authors, listed alphabetically, are most frequently read: H. Belloc, R. H. Benson, L. Borden, N. Boyton, K. Burton, William Campbell, W. Cather, G. K. Chesterton, Abbé Dimnet, O. F. Dudley, L. Feeney, H. Ghéon, P. Gibbs, C. Hollis, H. Homan, Fr. Hubbard, Joyce Kilmer, Ronald Knox, Von Lama, D. A. Lord, A. Lunn, Sister Madeleva, C. C. Martindale, H. V. Morton, G. Pauli, A. Repplier, Canon Sheehan, Msgr. Sheen, S. Kaye-Smith, V. Tracy, S. Undset, H. Waddell, J. J. Walsh, M. Walsh, W. T. Walsh, H. White and M. Yeo.

FINANCING

Financing the "Shelf" project may be handled in various ways according to circumstances in the community. Catholic societies ordinarily find the work to their liking. School sodalities and Catholic Action groups will listen to appeals for help. Parish bazaars, picnics, boat excursions, 'pot luck' suppers and the like have been used to advantage. Lectures and dramatic entertainments are especially profitable during the winter season, and

appeals to book enthusiasts for designated volumes will rarely be ignored.

GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS

Three years' experience with the Dubuque "Catholic Shelf" prompts the writer to offer the following suggestions to those who may be planning to undertake the project in other cities:

First, in seeking the requisite permission to locate the "Shelf" in the public library, it is essential to approach the librarian and the Board of Trustees tactfully. The individual who takes the initial step should be well acquainted with all the members, he should know the library and its problems thoroughly, and his interest in general community welfare should be unquestioned.

Second, a definite plan for the operation and the support of the "Shelf" should be submitted.

Third, stress should be placed upon the advantages of a "Shelf" to the library. Some of these advantages are: (a) it will mean the eventual contribution of a large number of representative books; (b) it will increase the annual circulation—a fact now definitely proven; (c) it will bring new patrons to the library, especially the type of reader interested in serious books; (d) it will obviate the building of private Catholic rental libraries whose tendency is to diminish interest in the public library; (e) it will help to make the library the outstanding center of community culture.

Fourth, the library should not be asked to place on the "Shelf" its own Catholic books already classified elsewhere among the general stacks. Catholics by supplying their own accessions to the "Shelf" obviate the possible cry of favoritism and at the same time avoid the complaint

(Concluded on page 110)

Recognized Standards as Applied to Catholic Elementary School Libraries¹

By GRACE E. CARTMELL

The standards upon which this paper is based are those given in the *School Libraries Yearbook*, number five, compiled by the School Libraries Committee of the American Library Association.

As a basis for our study let us set up a school of about 750 students—kindergarten through eighth year—this being the middle way. From this point other studies may be developed up or down according to the size of the school. Let us assume that the school is a typical Catholic elementary school with no peculiarities as to student background.

OBJECTIVES

The *Yearbook* lists as the objectives of an elementary school library:

- (1) To select a balanced collection of books to meet the demands of an integrated educational program as it is outlined by grade and subject in the curriculum.
- (2) To encourage an interest in reading and books.
- (3) To stimulate exploratory reading for facts and the effective use of library tools for research.
- (4) To establish the habit of using the public library freely.

- (5) To foster a fine feeling for books and a discriminating judgment in values.

to which the Catholic School would add (if not put first)

- (6) To foster, through reading and research, spiritual and intellectual development.

BUDGET

With the type and size of the school clearly stated and our objectives recognized we will set up a budget and annual appropriation which we will make as low as practicable. It is well to remember that it is advisable to have a definite sum before starting the library for the collection must be a "well-balanced collection of books". The original budget and the annual appropriation as given here do not include the salary of the librarian. This is often controlled by agreement with the community of which the Sister is a member but it should be of equal status with the teacher.

Original budget		\$2,500.00
Books and periodicals	80%	\$2,000.00
Binding	6%	150.00
Equipment and supplies	12%	300.00
Contingent fund	2%	100.00

Books and periodicals \$2,000.00
(will buy about 1,500 books)

¹ Paper prepared by Mrs. Grace E. Cartmell of the Queens Borough Public Library; read by Miss Virginia Chase at the Elementary School Libraries Round Table, Friday, June 17, 1938.

Reference	\$300.00
(will allow purchase of <i>Catholic encyclopedia</i> and a good encyclopedia for children)	
Periodicals and magazines	\$100.00
(will allow for A.L.A. membership with <i>Bulletin and Handbook</i> ; C.L.A. membership with <i>Catholic Library World</i>)	
Philosophy and Religion	\$100.00
(ethics, devotional books)	
Sociology	\$200.00
(folklore, commerce, transportation, customs)	
Philology	\$ 50.00
(readers)	
Science	\$300.00
(astronomy, nature study, chemistry)	
Useful arts	\$150.00
(hygiene, communication manufacture, etc.)	
Fine arts	\$100.00
(drawing, music, games, plays)	
Literature	\$200.00
(poetry, drama, humor, essays)	
History, Biography, Travel	\$300.00
(famous people, foreign countries, the past and the present)	
Fiction	\$200.00
(for literary style, introduction through good stories to life in foreign lands)	

Of course these items may be adjusted to suit the individual school.

Binding \$150.00

There are several firms who specialize in binding books in publisher's covers and otherwise strengthening the book, as well as rebinding old books. These may be ascertained by consulting publications of the American Library Association and of the Catholic Library Association.

Equipment and Supplies \$300.00

If all equipment were purchased from standard library supply firms the sum might be prohibitive, but this should be done if at all possible. Some of the equipment may be purchased locally but the catalogue case, the filing or pamphlet case and the charging tray should be of standard make. These would cost about \$100.00.

A local carpenter could build all the shelves; sturdy tables and chairs and a desk for the librarian might be purchased second-hand and refinished if necessary, and cost much less than the standard. Such equipment could be purchased for less than \$150.00 (according to locality).

Supplies \$50.00

The initial supplies would be:

3,500 catalogue cards (includes those used as shelf-list)

300 catalogue guides

2 sets date guides

2,000 book cards

2,000 book pockets

2,000 date slips or cards

10 doz. file folders

Accession book

Circulation record book or loose leaf binder for circulation sheets

Book ends

Stamp pads

Date stamp

Typewriter cost is not included for it is assumed that every school has a typewriter which may be assigned to the library certain hours weekly.

If catalog size cards are used for shelf-list also, shelf-list case would be same size as catalogue case and could be interchanged. Full entry, price, publisher and other data such as binding date and cost could be added to shelf-list making it doubly valuable as a library tool.

READING GUIDANCE

From the third grade up each class should have scheduled weekly library periods with instruction in the use of books and libraries given to the eighth grade and going down as far as the fifth.

The kindergarten, first and second years should have browsing periods in the library once a month, oftener if possible.

The library should be open a half hour before and one hour after school so that teachers and pupils may have the opportunity for informal visits and to return and borrow books.

Intelligent, informal day-to-day contacts with books are invaluable to pupils, teachers and the librarian but planned periods of instruction are necessary.

Five lessons in the use of books and libraries should be given:

- Appreciation and care of books

- Parts of a book; author, title, publisher, contents, index

- Arrangement of books in the library

- Encyclopedia, dictionary, almanac

- Card catalogue

Many public library children's rooms give instruction of this type, and the school and public library should correlate their instruction so that the students benefit to the greatest degree. Before school closes for the summer the children

should be taken to the public library on a prearranged visit so that they may keep on with their reading during vacation. Cooperation with the local public library is very essential.

LIBRARIAN STANDARDS

The librarian should at least meet the educational qualifications as set up by her State Board of Education so that her library would get the necessary recognition; better still she should get the qualifications as set up by the A.L.A. which differ with the size of the school. Her educational qualifications should be equivalent to the teacher in the school with additional formal instruction in cataloguing, children's literature, administration and reference work.

For the school of 100-500 pupils the A.L.A. says: "a teacher-librarian who has completed at least 6 semester hours training in library science and who devotes a definite number of periods each day to the library"; for the school of 500-1000 pupils (the school as set up in my paper comes under this heading): "a teacher-librarian or a full time librarian with the qualifications, educational background and salary status of the teacher and 24 to 30 semester hours in an accredited library school. One or two years experience in teaching or in public library work with children is desirable".

Let no one hearing this paper go away feeling it is useless to start a library until funds are available. Such would be a tragedy. Great libraries all started as collections of books. What distinguishes the good library is the *selection* of its books.

Collect your books as you can, from friends, from the children, from other sources, but do not waste your time ac-

cessioning, cataloguing and circulating all the trash that comes your way. Have the courage to reject it.

If, with your first fifteen dollars, you purchase the following titles you will get started toward a well selected collection of books for the children, the teacher and the librarian.

Graded list of books for children, compiled by A.L.A. Committee.

Selected, annotated list of books and magazines for parochial school libraries, compiled by Sister Cecil, C.S.J.

Program for elementary school library service. Lucille F. Fargo.

Library handbook for Catholic students. W. T. O'Rourke.

Handbook for teacher librarians. Education Committee, A.L.A.

Cataloguing of children's books. Elva S. Smith.

School library yearbook, number five.

School Libraries Committee, A.L.A.

Catalogue of selected books for Catholic boys and girls, compiled by Mary Frances Kiely.

In conclusion let me urge you all to join your local public library, the American Library Association and the Catholic Library Association and become an active member in the profession you have chosen.

Discussion by Sister M. Nathaniel, S.C.L.

Mrs. Cartmell has presented a complete picture of our objective—a library for our elementary school containing a well-balanced collection of books, suited to the needs of the various grades, properly catalogued to insure easy access to even the uninitiated in library usage, and administered by a trained librarian—all for twenty-five hundred dollars.

To those of us who are faced with the problem of "making up" tuition and keeping down the running expenses of our schools, the thought of getting twenty-five hundred dollars for a school library was rather breath-taking. We were relieved when Mrs. Cartmell assured us that the money end is of only secondary importance and that we may go on "collecting books" and thus in time acquire an adequate and satisfactory library. We must look on Mrs. Cartmell's library as our final goal, a clear picture of which will serve to orientate our efforts.

PUBLIC LIBRARY USE

Most of us use the public library freely in our teaching. I wonder if we use it too much. It is a good tool provided we have no better. It falls short, not only because of the dearth of Catholic material to be found there, or because of the danger to the child of unsupervised reading, but more, because its use produces a subconscious growth of a false idea in the child's mind—an idea, that he must seek cultural advantages outside his own Catholic institution. Dr. Robert M. Hutchins, president of the University of Chicago, in an address before the Midwest Regional Unit of the N.C.E.A., reminds us that the Catholic Church is the only institution with an uninterrupted intellectual tradition, but that our Catholic students are not aware of their wonderful heritage. I fear they will never be aware of it as long as we continue to rely as

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Don't Reclassify . . .

By JEANNETTE M. LYNN

If I were asked for some one word of general advice on reclassification, my considered reply would be "Don't". That is to say, "don't" reclassify without first sitting down to count the cost in time, in inconvenience, in criticism by patrons, and in money to be spent for salaries and supplies. "Don't" reckon with the host of difficulties and endless details which will beset the long road to completion.

I have never worked in a library which was not in the process of being reclassified. The change is being made in all sorts of libraries. Doubtless this is a healthy sign of growth, for change and development are synonymous. Certainly the majority of our Catholic school and college libraries are still under the necessity of reorganization and modernization in methods and equipment. For this reason, it is fitting that we consider some of the factors which should be weighed before taking up one's pencil to change the first call number.

The work of reclassifying should be estimated at not less than one-third times that for preparing a new book for use. Even if all old records be discarded and new ones set up, the removal of old call numbers and the reconditioning of the physical book are time-consuming and sometimes require no little ingenuity. If regular service to patrons is to be maintained while the reclassifying is done, then old and new records must be correlated and arrangement made for finding needed titles in the interval. If old rec-

ords are to be revised careful procedure is necessary to preserve them.

No definitive statement of cataloging costs is available. Obviously they must vary largely from one institution to another. A recent study¹ of such costs in a small public library sets the cost of cataloguing a title of non-fiction at forty and one-half cents. This figure is probably less than the cost for a college or school library because of the more specialized character of the books for the latter sort of libraries and the greater intensity of service expected of them. A reclassification cost of fifty cents a volume is a rough minimum estimate, which, for convenience, may be used in calculating the proposed expenditure. The major part of this outlay is for salaries, so that if additional staff and equipment are not necessary, the supplies required may be figured alone at about ten cents a volume. If the unskilled labor subsidized for so many libraries by government agencies is available, substantial decreases in labor costs may be effected.

Considering this expense, then, why are so many prudent administrators whose libraries are in need of books (what library is not?) and whose funds and staff are limited, choosing to make the sweeping changes involved in the reclassification of their collections? Obviously, such a decision is justified only if it will markedly increase the usefulness of the book

¹ LaCrosse, Wisconsin, Public Library, *Library Journal*, 60:658.

collection and pave the way to greater effective use and more ready exploitation of the library's resources.

Several factors may be present which in themselves, or in combination, justify the extensive reconsideration of each title which we call reclassification. This may or may not mean the adoption of a new scheme of classification, and it should be recognized that the decision to reclassify does not necessarily mean a change of scheme. Of choosing a classification scheme for one's library we shall say more later. The most frequent cause of the decision to reclassify is a general condition in the library, the result of inept practices, whose sum is a general confusion or inconsistency, so extensive and widespread as to make impossible convenient and efficient use of the resources of the library. This condition may involve only the choice of classification numbers, or it may extend to the catalog, the shelf-list and the other records and tools to such a degree that a wholesale rehabilitation is necessary. Any decision to recatalog extensively should call for careful consideration of the desirability of simultaneous reclassification.

Secondly, an expectation of continuing or accelerated growth may suggest a careful evaluation of the library's classification practice. For example, a library which has adopted a short form of the Dewey numbers, using only three or four places, might, because of a sizeable acquisition of books, or the assurance of an increased book budget, decide to carry its class numbers to the fourth or fifth expansion.

Lastly, it may be that the scheme of classification in use in the library is inadequate or unsuited to the library's needs, and like an ill-fitting garment,

needs to be recut, and readjusted, or even replaced by another more perfectly adapted to the collection and the patrons it should serve.

If, then, one of these factors, or all of them, is found, it would be well to survey all of the techniques in use and to consider the degree and direction of each change which may be contemplated. First, let us take the catalog. Is it accurate? Is it complete? Is it sufficiently uniform in cataloging practice to be readily usable? Are all the books in the library represented in it? Are all the books represented in it in the library? If the answer to any of these questions is negative, then does the fault include all the books and sections, or is it possible to revise some one group and to use the balance of the existing equipment? If all the books or a large part of them must be recataloged, then a simultaneous check on the classification is indicated.

The physical condition of the catalog may be a decisive factor. If it is not too dirty, and if printed or well-made type-script cards are found there, these may hardly be destroyed. To withdraw these cards, erase the old call numbers, and retype headings where necessary, is a tedious and time-consuming task. It should be well weighed whether the time thus spent will not be more costly than new cards and clean fresh records.

It may be that the catalog is in such poor condition, technically or physically, that it must be entirely abandoned. If it is small, a new file should be begun, allowing the old to remain until it contains no entries for books not reclassified. If the catalog is large, the new cards may be filed with the old, and periodic checks made to withdraw the cards for classes completely reclassified. This is especial-

ly useful if the tracing for added entries on the old cards is faulty or incomplete.

A similar check and survey should cover the shelf-list. Completeness and accuracy are especially important here. Reclassification provides an excellent opportunity for inventory and the clearance of loss records.

Finally it is well to check with the reference assistants. They may be painfully aware of faults in classification and in catalog records which are quite hidden from the administrator, the casual patron, and even from the cataloger and classifier.

The detachment for seeing the library whole, as suggested here, is difficult to attain. To offset the dangers of too great proximity it is well to call upon some other librarian whose judgment and experience may be respected. Two such consultants, an administrator and a cataloger, would be even better. But having listened carefully to their advice, the librarian should make his own decision in accord with his knowledge of his patrons, his collection and his resources.

Most vital of all the choices the librarian must make is that of a classification scheme. If it were possible to say "the X scheme is by far the best of all existing schemes and all libraries should use it", this paper need scarcely be written. Any such statement would be foolish in the extreme as well as untrue. All of one's personal prejudices, preferences, and predilections must necessarily be put aside and the local situation allowed to decide the case. The choice of the scheme most widely used in the community has definite advantages, since patrons will make the transfer from one library to another more readily if the classifications are similar.

As a general guiding rule, it can merely be said that only two major schemes need be considered by American libraries, the Dewey Decimal Classification, in its simpler, or complete form, and the Library of Congress Classification. Broadly speaking, scholarly libraries of college or university grade may well use L.C.; school, high school and popular libraries usually call for Dewey. Relatively small collections are not seriously hampered by the repetitions, omissions and vaguenesses of the Dewey. Conflicting possibilities may usually be resolved by pragmatic, arbitrary decisions. The merit of the two classifications have been discussed at length elsewhere². The major and incontestable advantage of the Library of Congress classification is its support by the national government and the consequent assurance of continuance, while privately controlled schemes remain subject to the vagaries of persons or corporations, death and the absence of taxes.

Having chosen the general plan of classification, it still may be that some sections need special treatment, notably, for Catholic libraries, the religion group. Since this article is written by request, the reader will forgive the mention of the Alternative schedules³ for these books. These schedules cover the Catholic literature on religion very fully, whereas these books have been largely neglected by compilers of both major schemes. Large Catholic libraries will find them useful for consultation, in addition to the regular L. C. and D.C. schedules for religion. Catholic seminaries and universities should use plan B⁴ since this provides the shortest notation for the largest groups

² Lynn, J. M. *An alternative classification for Catholic books*. Bruce, 1936. Introductory essay.

³ *Ibid.*

⁴ *Ibid.* p. 21.

of books. They will add "Z" to the L.C. notation for titles falling within the retained L.C. sections. Alternatively they might adopt only the BQ schedules as these provide for literature neglected altogether, or irretrievably scattered by both popular classifications.

Small, popular or high-school libraries may avoid the worst faults of the Dewey in classing books on religion, by discarding the class "282" altogether, reading the numbers 230 through 279 for Catholic materials. Especially they would group the history of the Catholic Church in 270-279 and group non-Catholic materials in 283-299. If a more extensive classification seems desirable, as in a college library already well-classed according to the Dewey, then plan C⁵ is suited to their needs. The promising Canadian expansion of the 200's, designed to be used with the Classification Décimale will be discussed in a later issue of the *World*.

Especial help in recataloging of books on religion will be found in the Vatican catalog code. Many points which are found in books on religion and not touched upon by the British-American code are treated here. Rev. Thomas Shanahan's translation of the *Norme*, adapting the rules to the English language and American use will soon be available.

In conclusion some mention should be made of the routine necessitated by reclassification of a library in whole or in part. First of all, every book should be examined by the person in charge of book

selection, and definitely weighed for inclusion in the library's stock. The physical condition of the book should be noted, its date and edition, its relation to other titles, in fact all the characteristics which govern the choice of a new title. Then it is necessary to cancel all old records, catalog, shelf-list, supplementary aids, and the markings on the book itself. Some libraries may simply abandon their old records altogether, but most will use parts of the catalog. If the library is in constant use, it is often useful to leave the author card in the catalog, with a notation "Being reclassified". Most of these cards will be discovered and withdrawn when the new sets of cards are filed, but periodic checks of the catalog for call numbers of completely reclassified sections will be necessary to withdraw those overlooked because of a varying form of entry. Untrained help may be used for these withdrawals if a careful check of the cards withdrawn for tracing and other possible added entries is made by the cataloger in the light of his knowledge of the library's previous practice. From this point on the book enters the regular stream of cataloging and classification procedure. All the variations which will be locally expedient cannot be even suggested here.

Reclassification is a costly, tedious and lengthy process, but if a library needs such a major operation, the results in increased efficiency, in the resulting inventory of its resources, and in the many by-products of a reordered catalog and a revitalized collection make it well worth the labor involved.

⁵ Ibid. p. 21.

Editorial Page

Our Candidate: St. Peter Canisius, Doctor of the Church

There can be no doubt that the Catholic Library Association should have a heavenly protector, a patron Saint of libraries and librarians. It was therefore with great interest that I read the well-written article of Rev. Placidus Kempf, O.S.B., on St. Jerome in the April number of *The Catholic Library World*. The great St. Jerome was indeed a friend of books. As a young man he began slowly and cautiously to build up a library for himself, which grew with his advancing years and accompanied him on his journeys. For the last thirty-four years of his busy life it found a resting place in his modest abode at Bethlehem. It must have been of quite unusual value, since his biographers ascribe to it much of the singular success of his labors. Such love for the private possession of worthwhile publications we admire, however, also in the lives of many other Saints, for instance, St. Boniface.

But the book treasures thus gathered were always essentially for the owner's own use, as are all private libraries, for instance, those of university professors. Of course they were also occasionally loaned to friends, but that was not the purpose for which the owner had acquired them. Such was also the fine library of St. Jerome, his own private books. This collection of well-chosen books would have fully served its purpose if no friend had ever borrowed a work from the owner.

The book collections our C.L.A. has in view, and for which we are seeking a heavenly protector are of an essentially different type. They are intended for public use. They are to benefit the public at large, either the whole population of a locality or at least the whole student body of some institution. The loaning of books from these collections is not an occasional and accidental favor to some private friends. It is not the exception, as in the case of a private library, but the rule. The loaning of books is the whole and sole purpose of our libraries.

This was exactly the kind of library which St. Peter Canisius tried to establish and for which he never wearied of laboring. In Vol. V of *The Catholic Library World* (March, 1934, pp. 57 and 58) there is a partial description of the Saint's activity for the establishment, maintenance and increase of such libraries. It covers nearly an entire closely printed page, enumerating plans, booklists, letters to superiors and prospective benefactors. No space on that page is sacrificed to a detailed mystic interpretation of a classic picture, or to a record of an imaginary library staff. In the official register of saints there is no one who strove so indefatigably for years and years to see the library ideal realized as did St. Peter Canisius.

However, his endeavors were not confined to his incessant care for libraries or to his being the Second Apostle of Ger-

many. All saints are universal. No saint is canonized for France only or for Italy only, although his earthly activity may not have extended beyond the boundaries of one land. Much less is the importance of a Saint whom the Holy Father declared a Doctor of the Church confined to one section of the church. And although St. Peter's lifework took place chiefly in Germany, his activity was by no means limited to that country. As adviser of several popes his influence extended as far as that of the popes. His great merits concerning the Council of Trent reached the ends of the Christian world. His learned Latin books were read and appreciated in all Europe. Above all his greatest work, the little Catechism, which was translated into twelve languages and in his home country alone went through two hundred editions all within his lifetime, carried his name and fame to the farthest regions of the Kingdom of God.

The Saint was indeed not the first to create libraries which had almost been an integral part of every convent and abbey. The number of the volumes owned by some of these institutions was large for their time while others were less imposing. It was principally with the coming of the art of printing that the book treasures of large and small depositories began to increase more rapidly. The blessed life of St. Peter (1521-1597, i. e., a thousand years nearer to us than St. Jerome) fell into these times. Book printing, invented about 1450, had conquered the world and had begun to flood the lands of Europe with its productions, good and bad. The Saint's aim was to

secure the good productions for the Catholic population and the library he recognized as one of the most efficient means to this end. His idea of the library was modern; it was our own idea. The book world around him had started vigorously on new and grander paths, paths which led to the enormous development which we witness in our present days and which we endeavor to utilize for the welfare of the Church and mankind. St. Peter Canisius is a Saint of our own age. He is the logical patron of the libraries of our times.

FRANCIS S. BETTEN, S.J.

* * * *

REGIONAL MEETINGS AND THE CONSTITUTION

It has been decided to hold the Seventh Annual Conference in Washington next April. There will be no Round Table in connection with the annual mid-winter meeting of A. L. A. Consequently the period of the Christmas holidays should provide an excellent opportunity for the Regional Conferences and Units to meet and discuss the objectives of the C.L.A. and the constitutional revisions, which were printed with the discussion thereon in the October number of *The World*. There are important changes in the sections devoted to membership, boards and sections, conferences and units, nominations and elections, and the Executive Council, which require a full and frank analysis by the entire membership before the April, 1939, Conference at which the revisions will be given a second and final reading.

Sources for Spanish American Church History¹

By CARLOS E. CASTANEDA, *Latin American Garcia Library,
University of Texas*

It is impossible to begin to enumerate within the short scope of a twenty minute paper the sources for the history of the Church in Spanish America, both printed and manuscript, which have been gathered in the University of Texas during the last thirty years. Nothing more than a general idea of the extent of the materials on the various phases of the activities and development of the Church can be attempted in the space allotted.

Much has been written in this country in recent years concerning the Church in the Spanish colonies. Unfortunately, most of the writing has been of a controversial nature and with few exceptions the writers have not taken the trouble to consult or study the original records. Because of the intimate relation between the Church and state that existed during the colonial period and the subsequent efforts of the republican governments to delimit the activities of the Church in our own day the work of the Church has been minimized. The true role which it played in the evolution of culture in Spanish America cannot be fully appreciated without a more detailed and careful study of the numerous sources now available. It may be well to point out that the bulk of the sources are in Spanish and that a thorough knowledge of this language is essential. Perhaps the lack of ac-

quaintance with Spanish is responsible to a large measure for the constant and uncritical use of the few English sources, many of which, it is well known, are biased.

Shortly before 1900, the University of Texas began to make copies of documentary sources in that richest depository of colonial records in North America, the *Archivo General y Publico de la Nacion* in Mexico City. The credit for this worthy undertaking, which laid the foundation for the archival collection of the University of Texas, goes to Dr. Herbert E. Bolton, who was an instructor in the department of history at that time. The work was continued through the years by others equally interested, who extended their field of activity to the even richer Archive of the Indies in Seville and other depositories. Primarily concerned with the early history of Texas, the selection of documents naturally included many records of the work of the Church, not only in Texas but in the entire Spanish Southwest. With the growth of the archival materials the field of interest grew apace.

GENARO GARCIA COLLECTION

By a most fortunate coincidence and a happy series of favorable circumstances the University of Texas obtained the Génaro Garcia Collection of books and manuscripts pertaining to the history of Mexico in 1921. This acquisition has

¹ Paper read at the General Session, Tuesday, June 14, 1938, 10:00 a. m.

made available to American scholars one of the richest collections in the history of Mexico in particular and Spanish America in general in North America. It consists of some ten thousand books, fifteen thousand pamphlets, more than one hundred newspaper files, over three thousand pictures, original drawings, and engravings, approximately five hundred maps, and about three hundred thousand pages of manuscript sources. Génaro Garcia was more than a mere collector. He was a historian and a scholar of wide and diversified interests. Before his death he published more than forty volumes, all of which are highly prized by historians and students. His collection includes, therefore, not only hundreds of rare books and pamphlets, as well as priceless manuscripts, but it covers every phase of Mexican life from pre-Columbus days to 1921.

It is in this collection that the sources for the history of the Church in Mexico and in Spanish America are found, not only for the colonial period but for the entire nineteenth century. No better proof of this fact could be cited than the recent *History of the Church in Latin America* by Dr. J. Lloyd Mechem, written chiefly from sources in the University of Texas. When the well-known Mexican Jesuit historian, Mariano Cuevas, was exiled from Mexico in 1928, he found solace in the Génaro Garcia Collection. Here he was able to complete his monumental *Historia de la Iglesia en Mexico* by writing the fifth volume from sources in Texas. W. H. Callcott made extensive use of the same sources in the preparation of his books *Liberalism in Mexico* and *The Church and State in Mexico*.

GENERAL CONTENT

What is the character and extent of the materials relative to the Church in Span-

ish America in the Génaro Garcia Collection? Out of the twenty-five thousand printed items, about two thousand deal with the Church and its activities. These include bibliographies of the various religious orders who labored in Mexico, such as the Franciscans, the Augustinians, the Dominicans, and the Jesuits, not to mention the sisterhoods and confraternities; numerous chronicles and histories of these orders, rules, constitutions, and *Actas Capitulares* (Chapter records); biographies of the most distinguished, as well as of many less known, missionaries, martyrs, teachers, saints, and members of the hierarchy; histories of the various dioceses and provinces, of the colleges of *propaganda fide*, whose sons spread the gospel from one end of Mexico to the other, of famous shrines, and of the various cathedrals; accounts of all the provincial councils since 1539; collections of sermons from the sixteenth to the twentieth centuries; histories of the educational activities of the various orders and the establishment of schools, seminaries, and colleges; grammars, dictionaries, doctrinas, and manuals in various Indian dialects compiled and prepared by the faithful missionaries; and collections of royal privileges, papal dispensations, and legal regulations governing the religious and secular clergy.

MANUSCRIPTS

Turning to the manuscripts, out of the three hundred thousand pages about one-third, if not more, deal with the history of the Church in Mexico or Spanish America. Here are found original letters and reports of the most distinguished and venerable figures in the history of Spanish colonization, such as Bishop Zumarraga, Vasco de Quiroga, Fray Bartolome de las Casas, Fray Alonso de la Veracruz

and others. Here, too, are accounts and detailed descriptions of the various dioceses, of the different religious provinces, and of the status of the numerous missionary enterprises from California to Yucatan. Notable in this history of education in America is the original record of the *Cofradia del Santisimo Nombre*, which founded the first school for girls in 1528 in Mexico City. Of no less interest is the manuscript account of the establishment of all the colleges in Mexico City written by Felix Osoreo.

The printed items in the Génaro García Collection have all been catalogued, with but few exceptions. Unfortunately the catalogue has not been printed, but it is hoped that this will be done in the near future. The manuscripts have been arranged in chronological order and a list is now being prepared for publication next year in connection with the *Latin American Handbook*, issued annually by the Committee on Latin American Culture.

MEXICAN MANUSCRIPTS

To the Génaro García Collection the University of Texas will soon add the finest and most extensive collection of original sixteenth century manuscripts relative to Mexico in existence today. Early in the fall of this year this new collection of documents, made by one of the most distinguished scholars and bibliographers of sixteenth century Mexico, will become the property of the University of Texas. This new acquisition will include about fifty thousand pages of manuscript materials, about one-third of them original sixteenth century documents. Besides the manuscripts, it includes forty-nine Mexican incunables and one hundred and ten rare Mexican

imprints many of which are either the only copy known or one of two or three.

Here, too, are found invaluable sources for the history of the Church. Priceless is the perfect copy of the famous *Doctrina Breve* of Bishop Zumarraga, the oldest printed book in the new world extant today and of which only two other copies are known. This was reprinted in a limited edition by the Catholic Society of New York a few years ago. Of no less interest is another *Doctrina* written in Nahuatl by the first teacher in America, the remarkable missionary Fray Pedro de Gante, a kinsman of Charles V, printed in Mexico in 1553. It is not possible to list all the rare printed items in this new collection that so eloquently bespeak the civilizing influence of the Church in Mexico during the sixteenth century.

I cannot refrain, however, from making a brief mention of a few of the manuscripts. Like a ruby set in diamonds stands out a petition of Fray Bartolome de las Casas, the Apostle of the Indies, written in its entirety and signed by him. The original minutes of the first Church council held in Mexico in 1539 is a priceless document in the history of the Church in America. Of equal interest is a *Parecer* (Opinion) of the Franciscans and Dominicans signed by such notable figures as Fray Martin de Valencia, Fray García de Cisneros, Fray Luis de Fuensalida, Fray Francisco Ximénez, Fray Miguel Ruiz, Fray Pedro Zambrano, Fray Domingo Betanzos, Fray Diego de Sotomayor, and Fray Gonzalo Lucero. It was Fray Martin de Valencia who headed the delegation of twelve Franciscans sent to Mexico like the twelve apostles to preach the gospel in the New World. There is in this collection an original letter by him,

written in 1526, one of the earliest known. Of unusual interest is the series of reports made in 1569 and 1570 by Fray Alonso de Montufar, Archbishop of Mexico, describing every parish in his arch-diocese. The *Informacion* of each parish or district is accompanied by a hand drawn and hand illuminated map, some on parchment, other on *agave* (paper made out of the fiber of the century plant). These reports with those of the other bishops, made at the request of Philip II, constitute the first illustrated census taken in the New World.

But it would be endless to attempt to describe in detail the treasures in the new collection. The complete list of these new documents will be published next year together with that of the Génaro Garcia Collection.

It should be said that while the bulk of the sources in the two collections deal in particular with Mexico, there are also a goodly number of documents concerning the history and work of the Church

in the Philippine Islands. This is explainable, since the Philippines were a dependency of Mexico for a long time and it was from Mexico that all the missionaries went to the Philippines, Japan, and even China.

The true and authoritative history of the Church, of its various activities, of its work in carrying western civilization to the natives of two continents, of its management and maintenance of hospitals for the sick, homes for the orphans and the aged, and asylums for the insane has not been written. The sources for such a study are in a large part available now. It is the duty of American scholars to make use of these materials in order to reconstruct the past and present a full and true picture of the Church in Spanish America. The University of Texas welcomes you and all students of Spanish American history and culture to acquaint yourselves with the resources which it has accumulated for a better understanding of our neighbors to the south of the Rio Grande.

Revised Union List of Serials

According to an announcement from the H. W. Wilson Company work on a revised edition of the *Union list of serials* is under way under the editorship of Miss Winifred Gregory, Library of Congress, Washington, D. C.

Catholic libraries are asked to submit new titles (but not holdings) of periodicals not already included in earlier volumes of the *Union list*. Forward the information to Miss Gregory at once, so

that these titles may be included in the check lists mentioned below.

If Catholic libraries wish to cooperate in the work of the *Union list*, notify Miss Gregory that the particular library wants to receive copies of the checking lists when ready. These checking lists will consist of the titles of periodicals, and libraries will be asked to record their holdings in the allotted space. The first such checking list covering the Letter A will not be issued until around April.

News and Notes

SPECIMEN BALLOT for the 1939 ELECTION

PRESIDENT (Vote for One)

- ☐ DR. WILLIAM FITZGERALD
Brooklyn Preparatory, Brooklyn,
New York.

☐

VICE-PRESIDENT (Vote for One)

- ☐ REV. THOMAS J. SHANAHAN
St. Paul Seminary, St. Paul, Minn.
- ☐ MISS MARY C. DEVEREAUX
University of Wisconsin Library
School, Madison, Wis.

☐

SECRETARY-TREASURER (Vote for One)

- ☐ MR. PAUL R. BYRNE
University of Notre Dame, Notre
Dame, Ind.

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL TERMS EXPIRING IN 1945 (Vote for Two)

- ☐ REV. COLMAN J. FARRELL, O.S.B.
St. Benedict's College, Atchison,
Kan.
- ☐ REV. IRENAEUS HERSCHER, O.F.M.
St. Bonaventure College, St.
Bonaventure, N. Y.
- ☐ REV. HENRY H. REGNET, S.J.
St. Louis University, St. Louis,
Mo.

- ☐ REV. MAX SATORY
St. Mary's College, Winona,
Minn.
- ☐ SISTER M. LOUISE, S.M.
Bishop McDonnell Memorial
High School, Brooklyn, N. Y.
- ☐ SISTER MARIE CECILIA, C.S.J.
College of St. Catherine, St. Paul,
Minn.
- ☐ SISTER MARY REPARATA, O.P.
Rosary College, River Forest, Ill.
- ☐ MRS. JEANNETTE M. LYNN
231 A Market Hall, Memphis,
Tenn.
- ☐ MR. WILLIAM A. GILLARD
St. John's University, Brooklyn,
N. Y.

☐

☐

The above ballot is a copy of the one sent to all members with the December issue and is not to be substituted for the official copy. The marked ballot should be returned before February 1, 1939, in the envelope provided, addressed to the Chairman of the Election Committee, Sister M. Ildephonse, Messmer High School Library, Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Submitted by the committee on Nominations:

REV. THOMAS J. SHANAHAN
SISTER PETRONA, A.P.P.S.
BROTHER SYLVESTER, F.S.C.
MISS MARGARET DE LISLE
EUGENE P. WILLING, Chairman
University of Scranton
Scranton, Pennsylvania

ILLINOIS CONFERENCE

The Illinois Regional Conference of the C.L.A. held its annual meeting jointly with the Illinois Library Association at Springfield, October 28. The Illinois Library Association met for three days, October 26-28; but the meetings for Catholic librarians were all arranged for the last of the three days. At the first general session of the Illinois Library Association, October 26, Reverend August Reyling, O.F.M., librarian of Quincy College, spoke before the Illinois librarians on the purpose of the Catholic Library Association. This address was very favorably received and commented on by the non-Catholic members of the Illinois Library Association.

On Friday morning, October 28, the Illinois Regional Conference, C.L.A., and the Illinois Library Association met in joint session at the Hotel Abraham Lincoln. Reverend August Reyling, O.F.M., librarian of Quincy College, presided, with Sister M. Elvira, O.S.F., librarian of the College of St. Francis, Joliet, acting as secretary. Mr. Earl W. Browning, president of the Illinois Library Association, addressed a few words of welcome to the Catholic librarians. He expressed his pleasure at seeing the two organizations in joint session, and he voiced a hope that the two would always continue in this spirit of friendly cooperation.

For this joint meeting, an open discussion on means of cooperation had been planned. Miss Margaret Corcoran, librarian of Springfield Junior College, had volunteered to outline the topic and to lead the discussion. A heated argument arose over the question of joint annual meetings between the Illinois Regional Conference, C.L.A., and the Illinois Library Association. Some favored joint

meetings, urging the advantages in hotel accommodations and book displays accruing to Catholic librarians from such meetings, as also the advisability of meeting in different parts of the state (the Illinois Library Association convenes in various cities) so as to give all the librarians a chance to attend at least some meetings. Others opposed joint meetings on the plea that the Catholic librarians should always meet in Chicago, where two-thirds of the members are located; this would insure a more numerous attendance. As a compromise, it was suggested that the regular annual meeting might be held in various parts of the state, and that in those years when this regular meeting is not held in the Chicago area, the Chicago librarians might have, in addition, a local meeting of their own. In fact, it was strongly recommended that for the coming Christmas holidays a Chicago meeting be arranged for the Catholic librarians of the Chicago area.

The discussion on means of cooperation between the local Catholic school and the local public library revealed the fact that the public library is most willing to help the Catholic schools, if only the Catholic schools make known their needs. Practically all public libraries extend to teachers, including those in Catholic schools, special privileges both as to the number of books and the duration of the loan period. Thirty books to a teacher with a four or six week loan period seems to be a fairly general rule in Illinois; one public library went so far as to loan a hundred books to a Catholic school for the entire school year.

On Friday afternoon, a sectional meeting for high-school librarians was held at Springfield Junior College. Reverend Cris-

pin Welbes, O.F.M., librarian of St. Joseph's College, Hinsdale, presided at this meeting, with Sister M. Elvira, O.S.F., librarian of the College of St. Francis, Joliet, again acting as secretary. Sister M. Ephrem, S.S.N.D., librarian of St. Michael's High-school, Chicago, read a paper on "Periodicals in the Catholic High School". She postulated three requisites for a good magazine: it must command the students' interest, it must contain reading matter of a high quality, it must serve some definite need. As a means to create student interest in good Catholic magazines, Sister Ephrem offered several workable plans according to which the teachers can cooperate with the librarian in this regard.

A paper entitled "Functions of the Library in the Catholic Social Movement" was read by Sister M. Florence, O.S.U., Sacred Heart Academy, Springfield. She pointed out three qualities that should be found in every good Catholic book: it must be strongly intellectual and not the "goody-goody" type of sentimental trash, it must be morally clean, it must be commendable for literary excellence. In connection with her paper, Sister Florence distributed a book list containing about twenty titles in the fields of fiction, drama, and biography; and through a brief interpretation of each, she showed how these books contain the desired three qualities.

As chairman of the Illinois Regional Conference of the Catholic Library Association for the coming year was chosen Miss Helen Schnoor, librarian of De Paul University, Chicago; Sister M. Angela, S.S.J., librarian of Lourdes High-school, Chicago, was elected alternate chairman.

TULSA MEETING

Monte Cassino Junior College served as host to the third annual conference of

the Colorado-Kansas-Nebraska-Oklahoma and Western Missouri regional group, of which Sister Mary Rose, O.S.B., librarian of Catholic College, Guthrie, Oklahoma, is the chairman. There was an attendance of about 200 persons from whom came twelve new institutional and six new individual memberships. Highlights of the conferences were the addresses of Bishop Francis Kelley, Reverend E. T. Sandoval, S.J., and Reverend Bede Scholz, O.S.B. Bishop Kelley told the delegates that theirs was one of the greatest of all professions for it was the work of diffusing the Word of God.

The conference opened on November 12 with a Mass celebrated by Right Reverend Mark Braun, O.S.B., Abbot of St. Gregory's, Shawnee, Oklahoma. Immediately after Mass the delegates went to Monte Cassino and were welcomed by Mother Agnes, O.S.B., president of the Catholic College at Guthrie. At the business session a motion to inaugurate a survey of parish libraries in the regional district was made and carried. A committee of five, one from each state, was chosen from the floor, with Reverend E. T. Sandoval, S.J., elected as chairman by the survey committee.

The general chairman of the conference presided at the morning session and presented the speakers. Sister Florence, O.S.B., of Mt. St. Scholastica, Atchison, emphasized the need of professional training for Catholic librarians. Reverend Bede Scholz suggested that a Catholic press shelf be displayed and that Catholic material should be better advertised. He also recommended a careful review of non-Catholic magazines. In an inspiring talk, to which succeeding speakers referred frequently, Sister Mary Roberts, O.P., of Notre Dame, Chattanooga, Ten-

nessee, outlined the history and growth of parish libraries. The paper was followed by enthusiastic discussion of parish library work in general, led by Reverend Leon McNeill, diocesan superintendent of education in Wichita.

Reverend Colman Farrell, president of the C.L.A., outlined the present activities of the Association, stressing the fact that Catholic education was greatly hindered by inadequate library service both during the period of formal instruction and afterward. The work of the Oklahoma state library committee which is sponsoring a bill to regulate the state library board and secure federal aid for the libraries of Oklahoma was explained by Dr. Iko Iben, librarian at the Oklahoma A. & M. College.

The afternoon session was devoted to discussion of Catholic readers, college, high school, elementary and hospital libraries. Each of the round tables inaugurated some piece of work to carry over into the fall conference of 1939. At the Catholic Readers session, which was in charge of Reverend Stephen A. Leven, Father Sandoval classed twenty-five titles in his talk entitled "The Book Parade of 1938".

The Sunday program consisted of a tour of Tulsa, a luncheon in the Crozier Club dining hall of Marquette School and inspection of libraries and special exhibits.

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The December issue of *The Catholic Bookman* devotes its entire opening section to a brief biography and extensive bibliography of G. K. Chesterton.

WESTERN NEW YORK MEETING

The Western New York Catholic Librarians Conference held its eleventh meeting in Canisius High School Library, Buffalo, Saturday afternoon, November 12. Reverend Andrew L. Bouwhuis, S.J., chairman of the Conference, presided.

Brief reports were given by members who had reviewed history books from the history A list of the *Standard Catalog for High Schools* since the October meeting. The bibliography for supplementary reading in History A was checked for titles approved and not approved. Bibliographies on Salazar's Portugal and on Czechoslovakia were distributed.

Teachers of history from public and private high schools had been invited to be present and take an active part in the discussion. Father Bouwhuis led the discussion on "The Value of History as Taught in High Schools". The chief topics discussed were the objectives expected to result from the teaching of history to high school students and the probable reasons for failure to achieve these objectives. Several of the reasons discussed were: lack of historical background resulting from curricula which require study of recent American history only; too much time given to the study of unimportant current topics; inability of pupils to visualize geographic and social conditions while considering remote events; overlooking the human side of history; using texts and supplementary reading books that are not conducive to the study of true history.

One outcome of the discussion was the suggestion that members of the History Departments of Canisius College and D'Youville College be invited to speak, at a future meeting of the Conference, on "What the Professor of History Expects

From College Students as a Result of Their Study of History in High School". Other topics to be discussed at future meetings are: "The Relation of Geography to History", "How to Promote Spontaneous Reading".

Mimeographed copies of list B were given out, and the titles, about five to each school, were assigned for review at the December meeting. Members are requested to follow the same procedure for reviewing and reporting as outlined for History A. This makes for brevity of report and completeness as well as uniformity of coverage.

At the invitation of Mother M. Helena, the December meeting will be held at Mount Mercy Academy, Buffalo.

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The Executive Council has announced that an honorary membership is being conferred on Miss Marion Barrows, former editor of the *Catholic Periodical Index*, in recognition of exceptional service to the Association. Miss Barrows, who edited the 1931 volume of the C.P.I., resigned during the summer of 1938 because of poor health. We hope she will soon return to active participation in the projects of the C.L.A.

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From the Madison, Wisconsin, Free Library we have received two mimeographed reading lists of Catholic books for adults and for boys and girls.

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The Diocesan Library of Wilmington, Delaware, under the direction of Mother Agatha, has inaugurated a Catholic Action Forum, consisting of talks on literary and educational topics, discussions and book reviews.

BROOKLYN UNIT

The quarterly meeting of the Brooklyn-Long Island Unit, in the form of a pre-book week discussion, took place on Saturday, October 22, at the Pro Parvulis Book Club in the Empire State Building. Miss Mary Kiely acted as hostess and Dr. William A. FitzGerald of Brooklyn Preparatory School as chairman. Guest speakers were Miss Elizabeth Blake of the Oxford University Press whose topic was: "Cost Production of Beautiful Books", and Miss Effie Power, visiting professor of Children's Literature at Columbia University, whose topic was "Reading Habits of Children". The chairman gave a résumé of proceedings of the Kansas City Convention. The authors, Catherine and Robb Beebe and Alan Buck, signed their books and a few words were expressed by Miss Anna Clark Kennedy, Library Supervisor of the New York State Department of Education, by Father Boniface Moll of St. Benedict's College and Sister Jane Frances of Mt. St. Scholastica College, Atchison, Kansas, by Mr. Laurence Leavey, managing editor of the C.P.I., and the Reverend Elmer Henderson of Brooklyn Preparatory. About sixty members and guests were in attendance and after tea, as former Governor Smith's guests, they viewed New York from the 102nd tower floor of the Empire State Building.

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The annual meeting of the Northwest Catholic Library Association will be held on December 27th at Holy Angels Academy, 5806 Fifteenth Ave., N. W. Seattle, Washington. Topics of discussion will be, "How to Obtain and Use Federal Documents", "State Publication Aids", and "How to Create Reading Interests". The newly elected officers will be in charge of this meeting.

N. C. E. A. List

The October 1938 College Newsletter of the Mid-West Regional Unit, N. C. E. A. contains the statement given below. The N. C. E. A. list will probably be published separately and will be of great value in making recommendations for the Shaw List.

Sister Serena's Committee on the List of Books for College Libraries is also collaborating with the N.C.E.A. Library Committee.¹

At a meeting held at the College of St. Teresa, Winona, Minnesota on October 4, the Library Committee of the College Department (N. C. E. A.) decided unanimously to return to its original purpose of preparing a list of books by Catholic authors which should be in every Catholic college library.

This committee, consisting of Sister Mary Aloysius, Rev. Edward A. Fitzgerald, Rev. Julius W. Haun, and Rev. Samuel K. Wilson, S.J., chairman, was appointed two and a half years ago to complete the book-list begun by Dr. Edward A. Fitzpatrick's Commission on Accreditation. Shortly after its appointment, however, it was directed to prepare a list of books by Catholics which it was hoped would be used in the expected revision of the Shaw List. Since this work has recently been taken over by the Catholic Library Association, the Committee decided to abandon it and proceed with the completion of its original list.

At the 1937 convention of the N. C. E. A. in Louisville, the Library Committee submitted a preliminary list of books in fourteen academic fields. These titles are now to be revised by competent scholars in each field and necessary additions and deletions made. The Committee intends to print

its final list as soon as the revisions can be completed.

All works included in the final list must be by Catholics, although books written by converts before they became Catholics may be listed. They must be in English, or if written originally in a foreign language, translated into English. Literary excellence will not necessarily be used as a criterion in making selections except for books which have literary pretensions themselves.

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DISCUSSION by SISTER M. NATHANIEL

(Concluded from page 92)

much as we do on non-Catholic sources for cultural opportunities.

I would suggest that to overcome this difficulty we use the public library as a base of supply. Most city libraries will lend quantities of books for school use to each teacher. Let us use these books, but let us circulate them from our own library. Besides its obvious advantage, this procedure will also leave us free to spend our funds on Catholic literature.

Mrs. Cartmell suggests the *Catholic Encyclopedia* as a reference text. Probably she hoped that the parish priest might be induced to donate his set. Otherwise, I would question the wisdom of this expenditure for a text which, excellent in itself, is beyond the capacity of elementary school children. I would suggest instead a few copies of the Catholic dictionary. Better still, why should not the Elementary School Unit of the Catholic Library Association sponsor the compilation of an encyclopedia for Catholic students — an up-to-date reference tool, authoritative, but above all readable and thoroughly Catholic.

¹ Cf. *Catholic Library World*, Nov. 1938, p. 70 for the report on the Shaw List.

Cataloging and Classification Notes

Edited by REV. THOMAS J. SHANAHAN,

St. Paul Seminary, St. Paul, Minnesota

[Librarians who have problems of classification or cataloging are invited to submit them to the editor of this column.]

Saints' names in English.

Many of the better known saints are from non-English speaking countries, and we have given them English names that are easy for us to remember. Should we use these names in the catalog? The purpose of a catalog is to help us find books, and if using the English name form is more convenient, we are free to do it. The U.S.C. and the C.B.I. use these forms in some cases and may serve as authorities for spelling and dates. However, we must remember that L.C. cards come with the Latin or vernacular form of name (French, Portuguese, Italian, etc.) and conceivably these will be followed in a moment when we have forgotten that an English name has been chosen. Therefore, a reference from the vernacular or Latin form should never be omitted from the catalog.

Shelving books in BQX (Church History) next to the 900's.

Problems of size or frequency of use often demand that groups of books be shelved in an order that does not agree exactly with the classification schedules.

For convenience the 400's and the 800's may be shelved adjoining one another; likewise the 900's and "B" (Biography). The same may be done with the 900's and the Alternative Classification's BQX (i. e. C70-C78.399 when used with the D.C.). Instead of following 269, BQX could be shelved before or after the 900's in order to have works on secular and church history side by side. A seminary library might wish this arrangement. A dummy following 269 would be a guide to the changed location of the books.

Classifying bibliographies with the subject instead of in D.C.'s 016.

Rules of classification do not bind like the Ten Commandments, but they have advantages and should not be disregarded without thought. The L.C. and D.C. classifications place all subject bibliographies in one place, a "form" classification; to suit the needs of the cataloger, the bibliographical student and the order department. In practice the arrangement works well. It would be possible to spread bibliographies throughout the classification as is done with other reference books, but it is doubtful if the possible advantage to be gained would offset the loss of a known convenience which the present arrangement gives.

DUBUQUE BOOK SHELF

(Concluded from page 88)

that taxpayers' money would be diverted to denominational enterprises. Moreover, Catholic books already in the library's regular stacks render a special service there for research purposes. They may also reach there some few readers who through prejudice would not visit a "Catholic Shelf". Again, the library is more likely to continue its own appropriations for Catholic books if these books are to remain in the general sections. However, several libraries have adopted the plan of placing all their Catholic books on a special "Shelf", and no objections have thus far been raised.

Fifth, truly representative books and only such should be placed on the "Shelf". The "Shelf" will be closely scrutinized by both Catholics and non-Catholics, and the quality of our literature in general will receive its rating from books there examined.

Sixth, in order to build up the collection, it is advisable to seek money contributions rather than gifts of books. People seldom give away a volume they deem of much value. Moreover, gift books frequently result in duplications.

Seventh, it is essential to select as an adviser a book-lover genuinely interested in the project. His enthusiasm will prompt him to keep abreast of the times, to watch for the appearance of new and representative publications, and to seek additional patrons.

Eighth, priests and sisters can help immeasurably not only by offering a friendly word here and there, but by appearing frequently at the library, by visiting the "Shelf" and using its books, and by cultivating the acquaintance of the staff.

Ninth, the "Shelf" should be widely and frequently publicized by the Catholic

press, by pulpit announcements, in school papers, and on Catholic clubs' bulletin boards. Book reviews of new accessions appearing in Catholic publications have been found to bring many new readers.

Tenth, the "Shelf" committee would do well to procure first a representative collection of current Catholic books in the various departments of literature and then gradually add the established classics of former years. New books seem to have a special appeal; and people's taste once whetted for Catholic reading will seek further satisfaction in the great contributions of our literary past.

Eleventh, interested Catholics must frequently patronize the "Shelf" themselves and encourage others to use it likewise. No library will be long satisfied to squander space on a section of books that never move. On the other hand, staff members are always ready to cooperate in making available the books that people really want.

Lastly, the following standards should be applied in the selection of the books: (a) the books, if by Catholic authors, must be good books; (b) the books, if by non-Catholic authors, must have at least a Catholic background or philosophy; (c) the books, whether by Catholics or by non-Catholics, must give evidence of good literary craftsmanship.

Three years' experience has convinced the Dubuque committee that the Catholic "Shelf" is emphatically worth while. The project has placed a representative collection of religious literature within easy reach of our own people, and it has attracted many non-Catholic readers whose only contact with intellectual Catholicism is the public library. More than that, it has both broadened and intensified the cooperative spirit within the community.

New Books

BOOK CLUB SELECTIONS

CATHOLIC BOOK CLUB November, 1938

KAYE-SMITH, SHEILA. *The valiant woman*.
Harper. \$2.50.
A novel of Sussex.

SPIRITUAL BOOK ASSOCIATES December, 1938

BERGERON, HENRY PAUL. *Brother André*. Benziger. \$2.00.
Brother André was for years a lay brother at the famous shrine of St. Ann, Quebec.

January, 1939

GRAF, DOM ERNEST, O.S.B. *The Church's daily prayer*. Spiritual Book Associates. \$2.00.
A treatise on the Breviary.

PRO PARVULIS BOOK CLUB October-November, 1938

Boys, 10-14. KELLY, ERIC. *At the Sign of the Golden Compass*. Macmillan. \$2.00.

A beautiful book, an adventure story, based on the great fifteenth century Catholic printing houses of Antwerp. Illustrated magnificently in wood block effect by Raymond Lufkin.

Girls, 10-14. SACKETT, ROSE. *Three tunes for a flute*. Macmillan. \$2.00.

Irish mystery story, gay, winsome, lovable. Illustrations by Richard Bennett.

Younger Children. BURDEKIN, HAROLD. *A child's grace*. Dutton, \$1.50.

Photographic picture book showing a child's day, how it begins and ends in God from Whom all good things come.

PHILOSOPHY

GRUENDER, H., S.J. *Problems of psychology*. A text for undergraduates. Bruce. \$1.85.

Designed as a text for a three semester-hour course in "Problems dealing with the science and philosophy of our rational life". Supplements the author's *Experimental Psychology*.

ROSS, REV. ELLIOTT J. *Ethics from the standpoint of scholastic philosophy*. Devin-Adair. \$3.50.

Third revised edition of a standard text in which the emphasis is placed on special or applied ethics. Suggested reading and questions with each chapter; general subject index. A complete list of all bibliographical references would be useful in an appendix.

RELIGION

BIBLE. OLD TESTAMENT. *The fine gold of the Old Testament*. A book of readings from the Douay Bible. Edited with introductions and notes by the Rev. I. J. Semper. Dubuque, Iowa, Columbia College Press. \$1.00.

Readings from the poetical, sapiential and prophetic books of the Old Testament designed as a text for a semester's course. "Prose selections have been cast into paragraphs instead of numbered verses, and the poetry has been arranged in the form of verse." Brief notes and suggested readings.

BIBLE. NEW TESTAMENT. *The New Testament, Vol. 1: The synoptic gospels*. By the Rt. Rev. Msgr. Joseph Dean. Second ed., rev. Longmans. \$4.50.

The first volume of the revised New Testament, newly translated from the original Greek, includes the Gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke. Each is supplied with a special introduction and with footnotes. Paper and type are good. Volumes 2-4 have already been published.

BOLTON, MOTHER. *Foundation material for doctrinal Catholic Action*. Based upon "A Little Child's First Communion" for the use of teachers of Christian Doctrine in homes, schools, catechetical centers, training classes for catechists, and novitiates; also for leaders of study clubs. St. Anthony Guild Press. \$1.50.

Invaluable manual of catechetical methods, designed to accompany *A Little Child's First Communion* (series of six doctrinal pamphlets, 60 cents), but also useful for any course in doctrine. Constant users will deplore the lack of an index.

FALQUE, REV. FERDINAND C. *Catholic truth in survey*. A textbook for the use of Confraternity of Christian Doctrine classes at the secondary school level of learning. Volume 2: *Christ, Our Redeemer*. Benziger. Paper, 72 cents; cloth, 96 cents.

"An exposition of Catholic doctrine through the figure of Christ. In the first portion . . . the student is given a survey of the historical life of Christ. This is supplemented by an exposition of the Catholic creed, cult and code in association with the threefold office of Christ as Prophet, Priest and King."

FARRELL, WALTER, O.P. *A companion to the Summa*. Volume II: *The pursuit of happiness*. (Corresponding to the *Summa Theologica* IA IIAE.) Sheed and Ward. \$3.50.

Modernized restatement of the *Summa* intended "to furnish a rational defense of his faith for the ordinary Catholic and to open St. Thomas to the layman who has no professional philosophical or theological knowledge". (Foreword). This volume, the first of the four to be published, discusses Thomistic ethics.

JENNESKENS, MARTIN. *The Eucharist and life*. St. Anthony Guild Press. \$1.50.

Stresses the Eucharistic influence in forming a Christian life.

LASANCE, REV. F. X. *Kindness, the bloom of charity*. Thoughts on fraternal charity. Benziger. \$1.00.

Compilation of quotations on kindness, charity, joy and patience; bound in limp leather and enclosed in a gift box.

LASANCE, REV. F. X. *Peace: reflections on a Christian's peace with God, with every neighbor, and within himself*. Consoling thoughts on divine providence and conformity to the will of God. Benziger. \$1.00.

Anthology of prose and poetry. Limp binding, in a gift box.

LEEN, EDWARD, C.S.Sp. *Why the Cross?* Sheed and Ward. \$2.50.

Exposition of the Christian ideal and philosophy of life.

NEWMAN, CARD. JOHN HENRY. *Heart to heart. A Cardinal Newman prayerbook.* Compiled from his writings by Daniel M. O'Connell, S.J. America Press. \$2.00.

Meditations and hymns on the Trinity, Our Lord's sufferings, Risen Savior, Holy Ghost, Eucharist, Blessed Virgin, Purgatory, Confession and Saints. In addition, there are suggested daily devotions and selections by seasons of the year.

PIRON, PAUL, S.J. *Five children. The story of the apparition of the Blessed Virgin at Beauraing.* Tr. from the French by Rev. James F. Cassidy. Benziger. \$1.75.

Describes the apparitions of 1932 which has made Beauraing a place of pilgrimage.

WOLPERT, REV. LEO. *Brother Berthold tells a story. One hundred little stories to be used as illustrations for sermons and catechetical instructions.* Adapted into English by Rev. Athanasius Pope, O.S.A. Pustet. \$1.50.

Stories taken from history, legend and daily life. Subject and biographical index.

SOCIOLOGY

LE BUFFE, FRANCIS P., S.J. *Jurisprudence, with cases to illustrate principles.* (By) Francis P. LeBuffe, S.J., and James V. Hayes. Third ed., rev. and augmented. Fordham University Press. \$3.00.

"Attempts in brief outline to summarize a school of Pure Jurisprudence." Opposed to a "totalitarian, absolutist philosophy of law".

MURRAY, RAYMOND W., C.S.C. *Social problems.* By Raymond W. Murray and Frank T. Flynn. Crofts. \$3.50.

Designed to accompany Murray's *Introductory sociology*. Discusses international relations, population and social work problems in the light of Catholic ethical doctrines.

SHEEN, MSGR. FULTON J. *Liberty, equality and fraternity.* Macmillan. \$2.00.

Discusses Liberalism (Capitalism), Communism and Christianity as "the three major programs offered for the (economic) ills of the modern world". Selected, annotated bibliography on Communism; lacks index.

SWANSTROM, EDWARD E. *The waterfront labor problem. A study in decasualization and unemployment insurance.* Fordham University Press. \$3.50.

Doctoral dissertation covering casual or brief employment in the longshoreman's industry, attempts of cities to meet the problem, union activity and unemployment insurance. Bibliography and index.

LITERATURE

BARRETT, ALFRED, S.J. *Mint by night.* America Press. \$1.50.

Forty-seven poems of various *verae* forms, often parables in rhyme, inspired by liturgy, history and tradition.

MADELEVA, SISTER M. *Christmas Eve and other poems.* St. Anthony Guild Press. \$0.50.

Two Christmas poems, two symbolical sonnets, and four other poems, varied in technique and religious in spirit.

FICTION

BARTH, HILARY LEIGHTON. *Flesh is not life.* Bruce. \$2.50.

Story of a young girl, a devout advocate of social justice, who is led by circumstances into the very heart of Communism. Barely escaping disaster, she finds fulfillment of her ideals in Catholicism.

GALLAGHER, L. J., S.J. *The test of heritage. A Russian class-war novel.* Benziger. \$2.50.

Portrayal of the contradictory philosophy of Bolshevism exposed in the personal ambition and vindictiveness of a young Russian enthusiast, sworn to party allegiance, but swept away by his desire for power and revenge. Sept. 1938 choice of the Catholic Book Club.

HURLEY, DORAN. *The Old Parish.* Longmans, Green. \$2.00.

Excellent short stories illustrative of the carry-over of faith into the ordinary activities of Catholic Irish-American life.

HISTORY

CURRAN, MSGR. EDWARD LODGE. *Great moments in Catholic history. 100 memorable events in Catholic history told in picture and story.* Illustrated by Samuel Nisensohn. Grosset. \$1.25.

Brief descriptions of famous events from the Annunciation to Pope Pius XI's condemnation of "Atheistic Communism". Appropriately illustrated. Designed for use in upper elementary and high school classes; valuable as a reference book in any collection.

GARRAGHAN, GILBERT J., S.J. *The Jesuits of the Middle United States.* America Press. Three volumes. \$15.00.

History of the Jesuits in "the territory lying between the forty-ninth parallel, Mason and Dixon's line, the Rocky Mountain Continental Divide and the eastern boundaries of Michigan and Ohio" for the period 1823 to the early 1920's. About 90% of the material is limited to the 1823-1870 period. "For the period subsequent to the sixties no attempt is made at documentation . . . (and) here the treatment is necessarily sketchy." Illustrations include many portraits and facsimiles. Extensive bibliography; index fair for personal names, weak in subject references.

HENNEPIN, REV. LOUIS. *Father Louis Hennepin's Description of Louisiana, newly discovered to the southwest of New France by order of the king.* Tr. from the original edition by Marion E. Cross. With an introduction by Grace Lee Nute. University of Minnesota Press, 1938. \$3.50.

Account of his trip of 1679-1680 in which he covered the upper Mississippi valley. The former translation by John Gilmary Shea has long been out of print. Index.

BIOGRAPHY

BORDEN, LUCILLE PAPIN. *Once—in Palestine.* Macmillan. \$1.50.

Well-written story of the Holy Family, expressed in simple yet imaginative style.

DUFFIN, MOTHER MARY G. *A heroine of charity: Venerable Mother d'Youville, foundress of the Sisters of Charity, Grey Nuns, Montreal, 1701-1777.* Benziger. \$1.75.

Biographical sketch revealing "the benign influence of religion".

FEENEY, LEONARD, S.J. *Elizabeth Seton, an American woman. Her story.* America Press. \$2.00. Lively biography of the foundress of the Daughters of Charity, who may become "the first American saint in the American manner". Lacks an index.

(Concluded on page 116)

Book Reviews

American youth: An annotated bibliography. By Louise A. Menefee and M. M. Chambers. Prepared for the American Youth Commission. Washington, D. C., The American Council on Education. 1938. Pp. xii, 492. \$3.00.

An annotated bibliography is always an important addition to professional literature. This volume, with its 2500 selected references to works of over 2000 authors, "touches many facets of our complex modern society and is designed to be useful to persons of all ages in all walks of life who wish to keep abreast of current thought regarding the care and education of youth". The references appear under eighteen main categories: I. The Problem of Modern Youth; II. Attitudes of Youth; III. Youth in the Depression: Unemployment and Relief; IV. Employment and Vocational Adjustment; V. Education; VI. Health; VII. Child Welfare and Child Labor; VIII. Adolescence; IX. Family Life and Housing; X. Leisure and Recreation; XI. Citizenship, Character, and Religion; XII. Delinquency and Social Maladjustment; XIII. Governmental Youth-Serving Organizations; XV. Social Organization, Research, and Surveys; XVI. Rural Youth; XVII. Negro Youth; XVIII. Youth in Other Countries.

Depending upon the importance of the book or article listed, there is a variation in the size of the annotation ranging from two to over twenty-five lines. The bulk of the annotations deals with the literature of youth published from 1930-1937. Types of publications range from newspaper stories and articles in the "slick paper" magazines to mimeographed pamphlets, doctoral dissertations, and highly technical reports.

The imperfections of this bibliography are few. The expert in any particular field will find the list of publications woefully inadequate and will frequently puzzle over the standards for inclusion or exclusion of certain references and authors. It is only fair, however, to state that the volume was "not designed as a professional tool except for the purpose of affording means of contact with the broad range of current youth problems". This reviewer feels that the annotations are often too brief to be of much value.

The praiseworthy features are many. The tremendous extent of topics covered, the workmanlike job of organization and classification and the thorough index under topic, author, and periodical are especially noteworthy. Since the Reverend Doctor George Johnson inspected and approved the manuscript, the inclusion of Catholic titles is quite adequate. A separate directory of book publishers and a bibliography of bibliographies bearing on the youth problem form a useful appendix to the annotations.

There can be no doubt that this publication will fulfill the compilers' purpose of disseminating knowledge and understanding of the problems of youth in a modern society. To those whose social conscience, occupational, professional, and parental interests give them a high stake in the welfare of youth, this volume is indispensable.

Vocations in fiction: an annotated bibliography. Compiled by Mary Rebecca Lingenfelter. Second edition. Chicago, American Library Association, 1938. Pp. 99. \$1.25.

This is an authoritative bibliography based on a term paper for a course in vocational guidance, and later expanded and completed as a project of the Bureau of Educational Research, Ohio State University. The enlarged list was issued in a preliminary mimeographed form by the A.L.A. in 1932, and the work has since been continued in order to present the material in more permanent form.

This revised and enlarged edition contains 463 novels, representing 102 occupations, selected according to a particular standard, and includes novels which, because of the author's recounting of personal experiences, the reactions of characters to different activities, the building up of atmosphere, or portrayal of historical background, have general vocational significance.

The bibliography comprises an alphabetical list of the occupations represented with cross-references, a complete list of authors, two separate lists of titles (those in print July 1937, and out-of-print novels) entered alphabetically under occupations with brief descriptive annotations. In

the main list symbols are used to grade the book according to reader and to designate its particular vocational significance.

The list has been prepared primarily for the use of librarians, teachers and vocational counsellors, and should not be placed in the hands of the young, indiscriminate reader. The occupations are for the most part well represented, but there is a lack of stories dealing with vocations to the Catholic priesthood and sisterhood.

Who uses the public library. A survey of the patrons of the Circulation and Reference Departments of the New York Public Library. By William Converse Haygood. Chicago, University of Chicago Press, 1938. Pp. xix, 137. \$2.00.

In January, 1936 the New York Public Library, under the direction of the author of this report, made a survey of 19,595 readers who freely stated their opinions on the questionnaire forms designed to discover, "Who comes to the public library? What do readers do in the library? What brings them? How well satisfied are they? What contributes most to their dissatisfaction? Who uses the card catalogue? How often do most readers visit the library? What do they read outside its walls? What do they think of it as a public institution?"

The result is an objective portrayal of use by and attitudes of all types of readers from the unemployed men, "leaning ponderously and timelessly over the daily paper," to housewives, students, business and professional people. Among the significant findings are: 1. In the Circulation Department 65 per cent of the readers were below the age of twenty, and almost 80 per cent were below the age of thirty," (p. 111-112). Of all patrons students constitute the largest group, 38.2 per cent, a figure considerably lower than for South Chicago and St. Louis. This would seem to indicate that the schools are not providing sufficient materials or service. 2. The greatest amount of dissatisfaction was caused by the library's inability to duplicate its present bookstock in sufficient numbers, (p. 113-114). This reflects to some extent the social standard which demands the reading of "best-sellers" and current literature.

The survey is well done, generally interesting and informative. Although it "has no recommendations to offer," many suggestions for improvement are made by the patrons and others are implied in the data. The questionnaires in

the Appendix provide good models for use elsewhere. The index, which groups by large subjects, could have been considerably expanded.

List of 2500 books in the main Catholic and contemporary. Circulated by the Catholic Lending Library, Hartford, Conn. Pp. 145. 25 cents.

This is the catalog of one of the finest Catholic circulating libraries in the country whose founder, Rev. Andrew Kelly, we hope to persuade to reveal some of his secrets in the *World*. The program of the library is "to corral all the reading, not only the Catholic reading of our members" and, therefore, this list presents books of all types, by Catholic and non-Catholic, divided into fiction and non-fiction with names of publishers and dates given for all titles. An example of its wide coverage is seen in the list of 69 titles by Hilaire Belloc. For public and school libraries this List will be extremely valuable in book selection and bibliographical work.

The religion teacher's library. A selected annotated list of books, pamphlets and magazines. Compiled by Rev. Felix M. Kirsch and Rev. Claude Vogel. Paterson, N. J., St. Anthony Guild Press, (c1938). Pp. v, 57. 25 cents.

This "selective" bibliography of more than 1,000 titles will prove an indispensable guide for religion teachers and librarians who must choose material for teaching and reading. It includes books, pamphlets, plays, visual aids (films, pictures, charts, etc.) and periodicals, with publisher, price and a critical or descriptive annotation for each. A few minor errors such as the failure to mention Volume 5 of Mourret's *History* (p. 3) and the omission of the *Catholic Encyclopedia* from the Reference group can be corrected in the next edition in which we would also like to find an author and subject index. *The Religion teacher's library* should be on the first purchase list of every library.

The selection of United States serial documents for liberal arts colleges. By Kathryn Naomi Miller. N. Y., H. W. Wilson, 1937. Pp. xii, 364. Planographed.

In this book we have an evaluation of 727 titles of U. S. serial documents made by 812 instructors and 76 college librarians with the primary objective of determining the relative value of specific serials in student research and collateral reading, faculty research and general

library use. The 727 titles are presented in eleven subject lists, e.g., Political Science, History, Chemistry, etc. and arranged according to their ranking by the instructors and librarians. The evaluations, with which we may disagree slightly at times, should be of considerable value in Federal document selection. We favor the author's recommendation "that the selective depository privilege be expanded to include all accredited colleges which desire the privilege and are capable of assuming the responsibilities inherent in it." Seven Catholic colleges are represented among the contributors.

Classified list of periodicals for the college library. Second edition, revised and enlarged. By Guy R. Lyle and Virginia M. Trumper. Boston, F. W. Faxon Co., 1938. Pp. xi, 96. \$1.25. Lithographed.

The second edition of the *Classified list* is a great improvement in that it mentions 413 periodicals compared to 376 in the first edition, adds music periodicals and drops those in engineering, shows a complete and excellent revision of notes, marks titles for first purchase, and gives L. C. card numbers. Only one Catholic periodical, *The Commonwealth*, is included. This will invalidate the *List* insofar as it might be used by accrediting agencies as a check against our college library collections. With this exception we highly recommend the second edition.

American authors, 1600-1900, a biographical dictionary of American literature. Edited by Stanley J. Kunitz and Howard Haycraft. Complete in one volume with 1300 biographies and 400 portraits. New York, H. W. Wilson Company, 1938. Pp. vi, 846.

American authors is a book every library must have and every literature teacher ought to have. The portraits are distinct and beautiful. The biographical sketches, from 150 to 2500 words in length, are interesting and authoritative. They are well proportioned among personal, domestic, public and literary events. They also offer well considered and usually sound critical evaluations and subjoin brief but selected bibliographies. Among the personal information one could wish more emphasis upon religion. If his religion is an important thing about a man, then its presence or absence should be stated in biographies.

What few Catholic authors there were between 1600 and 1900 seem to be adequately treated.

They are Orestes Brownson, Mathew Carey, Francis Marion Crawford, John Augustus Daly, Father Abram Ryan, Charles Warren Stoddard, and Father John Bannister Tabb. Joel Chandler Harris's deathbed conversion is not mentioned, nor is J. Ryder Randall, author of "Maryland, My Maryland", referred to as a Catholic. Among 1300 American authors this is truly a pitifully small handful of Catholics, and most of these are converts.

This is an invaluable and excellent book. May a future edition covering the twentieth century deserve a fair quota of Catholics.

A. J. A.

Quotations for special occasions. By Maud Van Buren. New York, H. W. Wilson Company, 1938. Pp. 201. \$2.50.

Since sometimes one apt quotation can give point to a whole speech, the compiler has good justification for saying that, according to librarians, there are "Never enough!" *Special Day* resources. Here are collected an average of one hundred quotations on each of twenty-nine principal American commemoration dates from Arbor Day to Washington's Birthday, including Book, Conservation, Health, Music, Safety, and Thrift Weeks. Christmas, New Year's, St. Patrick's, and St. Valentine's are the Church days represented.

The quotations are chiefly from secular sources, though the Bible, Francis of Assisi, and a Kempis are included. Chief honors, with twenty-one index entries, go to Shakespeare. Longfellow and Whittier are tied with twenty from each. The chief Catholic representatives are Alfred Noyes with five and Joyce Kilmer with four. Chesterton and Belloc are noticeably absent. Commendable is the inclusion of some historical and documentary material, such as that from Columbus.

A. J. A.

America's young men. The official who's who among the young men of the nation. Volume III, 1938-39. Edited by Durward Howes. American Publications, Inc., Los Angeles, California, 1938. Pp. cxiii, 655. \$10.00.

America's young men contains the biographies of 6,532 leaders under forty-one years of age. Its expensive binding and paper make it look like a roll of honor for those included, nor can inclusion be achieved by advance payment for the book or by any means except merit. An excellent statistical analysis of all the biographies in

terms of age distribution, birthplace, domicile, marriage, occupation, political and religious affiliation reveals that of the 6,532 elected for inclusion only 411 or .63 per cent, from among a Catholic population of 20 per cent, are Catholic. Excluding 1936 names as "not stated" and 470 labeled generally as Protestant, 823 are Presbyterian, 793 Methodist, 724 Episcopalian, and 440 Baptist. Hence, though the Catholic population is easily twice that of any of these, it has only half as many young men enrolled in this Who's Who among America's distinguished young men.

One explanation seems to be that the editors weighted secular achievements distinctly more heavily than ecclesiastical ones. They list, for example, 831 attorneys, but only six priests, three rabbis, one bishop (Reformed Episcopal), and 127 ministers. The proportion of Catholics, therefore, whose leaders are still preponderantly of the clergy, would tend to suffer. One can see, too, that Catholics associated with distinctly Catholic activities and institutions were less noticed for inclusion than Catholics of similar rank and achievement in the government and other non-Catholic circles.

But the chief reason for the small percentage of Catholics included finally seems to be the lower educational and leadership status of Catholics. Of those included, 5,671 or nearly 87 per cent are college graduates and 1,157 or over 20 per cent have Ph.D. degrees. But according to the N.C.W.C. pamphlet, *Why a Catholic college education?*, only twelve in every 10,000 of the Catholic school population graduate from college and, while the general Catholic population is twenty per cent, our college population is given as not more than fifteen per cent. Some years ago in one of the few Catholic universities conducting Ph.D. work it was said that only four per cent of the graduate students in the country are Catholic. Obviously, therefore, educationally speaking, Catholics do not have their proper proportion of leaders, especially of lay leaders, since 22.27 per cent of Catholic college graduates have been listed as priests.

There is other corroborative evidence. Some years ago (before the New Deal!) an investigator found that the number of Catholics holding important political office is "ridiculously small as compared with the numerical strength of that great body". In the State Department he found among a total of 1,507 names listed and checked only seventy-six Catholics or "a paltry 5 per cent".

The small proportion, therefore, of Catholics included in this Who's Who is probably largely warranted by the facts of achievement. Those included deserve congratulations.

Since, however, comparatively few Catholics are included and since most, though not all, of these are in the *American Catholic who's who*, this book, except for its statistical analysis and occupational index, has little distinctive value for Catholic libraries.

A. J. A.

* * * *

NEW BOOKS

(Concluded from page 112)

McNABB, VINCENT, O.P. *A life of Our Lord.* Sheed and Ward. \$2.00.

"Novel-length" biography, popularly written with few Biblical quotations and no scholarly appendages.

ST. ALBERTUS COLLEGE. *St. Albertus Magnus. The secret of St. Albert's consecration of himself to God; the secret of St. Albert's dedication of himself to man.* St. Catherine's Press, Racine, Wis. \$1.00.

Essays.

VISARIUS, SISTER M. HERMENEGILDIS. *A hidden spouse of Our Lord. The life of Sister Blandine Merten, Ursuline.* Compiled from recollections, letters and her notes. Benziger. \$1.50.

Biography of an Ursuline who lived from 1883 to 1918.

JUVENILE

BOYTON, NEIL, S.J. *Killgloom Park.* Benziger. \$1.50.

The background of this novel is an amusement park. Sequel to *On the sands of Coney*.

BRENNAN, REV. GERALD T. *Angel city. A book for children from six to sixty.* Bruce. \$1.25.

Light, clever stories accompanied by black and white drawings.

CARROLL, PATRICK J., C.S.C. *Many shall come.* Ave Maria. \$1.50.

Novel about a man who leaves his Faith for social advantages. Adolescent reading.

CROFT, ALOYSIUS. *Twenty-one saints.* Bruce. \$1.50.

Brief lives into which many anecdotes are interwoven. Written for boys.

ERNEST, BROTHER, C.S.C. *Captain Johnny Ford.* Ave Maria. \$1.00.

Football story.

LETOURNEAU, REV. EMILIEN. "My little missionary!" *Jacques Bernard, 1918-1927.* Tr. from the French by Mary Agatha Gray. Benziger. \$1.25.

Life of a French Canadian boy whose ambition was to become a missionary. Well-illustrated.

MOREHEAD, ANNE. *The mystery of Lady Ridge.* Ave Maria. \$1.00.

Adventure and mystery story.

WELFLE, REV. RICHARD A., S.J. *Blood on the mountain.* Benziger. \$1.25.

Adventurous novel for boys and girls.

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